

I am incensed by the cheap shot the Sinclair Broadcast Group trying to legitimize ordering their affiliate stations to air their absurd smear of John Kerry. I respect their right to hold any position, for or against any candidate or position but they cannot be allowed to bias their programming by blatantly putting on that program at that time. As the opponents state, let the affiliate stations that wish to air said program pay for political broadcast time like everyone else.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.